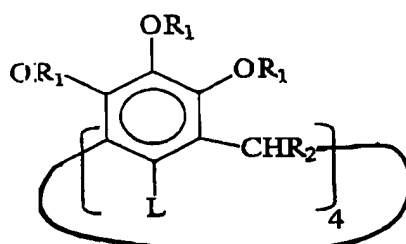


Claims

1. Compounds of formula I



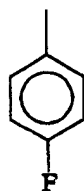
Formula I

5 wherein at least one R_1 is H and the remainder are $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{K}$; R_2 is



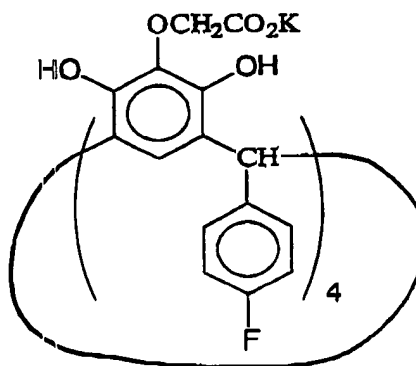
and L is H.

10 2. A compound of formula I as claimed in claim 1 where 4 to 8 of R_1 are $\text{CH}_2\text{CO}_2\text{K}$, the remaining R_1 substituents are H, R_2 is



and L is H.

3. A compound of formula II



Formula II

4. A mixture of compounds of formula I having different degrees of alkylation.
5. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 or a mixture as claimed in claim 4, in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of viral infection, particularly HIV-1 infection.
6. Use of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 or a mixture as claimed in claim 4, together with an anti-viral agent, in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of viral infection, particularly HIV-1 infection.
7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of formula I or II as defined herein together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a mixture of compounds according to claim 4, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3 or a mixture as claimed in claim 4, together with an anti-viral agent and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.
10. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I comprising the steps of

- (i) reacting aldehyde with HCl and pyrogallol;
 - (ii) reacting the product from step (i) with potassium carbonate and ethylbromoacetate in acetone; collecting reaction product and treating with aqueous HCl;
 - 5 (iii) reacting product from step (ii) in ethanol with KOH.
11. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula I comprising the steps of
- (i) reacting aldehyde with HCl and resorcinol;
 - 10 (ii) reacting the product from step (i) with potassium carbonate and ethylbromoacetate in acetone; collecting reaction product and treating with aqueous HCl;
 - (iii) reacting product from step (ii) in ethanol with KOH.
- 15 12. A method of treatment of infection comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of at least one compound of formula I or II.
13. A method of treatment of infection comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of a mixture of compounds of formula I having
- 20 different degrees of alkylation.
14. A method of treatment of infection comprising administering to a patient a pharmaceutically effective amount of at least one compound of formula I or II or a mixture of compounds of formula I having different degrees of alkylation, together with
- 25 an anti-viral agent.